

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an intraorally rapidly disintegrable tablet which comprises granulating a mixture of a water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient and an adsorbent selected from the group consisting of calcium silicate, light anhydrous silicic acid, synthetic aluminum silicate, silicon dioxide and magnesium metasilicate aluminate to prepare fine granules, mixing the fine granules, D-mannitol and a disintegrator to prepare a material for compression molding, wherein the compounding ratio of the fine granules by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 1 to 50%, and compression-molding ~~subjecting the material to compression molding—in order to provide intraorally rapidly disintegrable tablets,~~ wherein the compression molding is carried out using a compression molding machine in which a lubricant selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, stearic acid, stearyl alcohol, sodium stearyl fumarate and sucrose fatty acid ester is previously applied on a surface of punch and die.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the disintegrator is at least one member selected from the group consisting of crospovidone, low-substituted hydroxypropylcellulose, croscarmellose sodium and carboxymethylcellulose.

20. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the whole or a part of the D-mannitol is a primary particle and the specific surface area of the primary particle is $1.0 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and the average particle size of the primary particles is in the range of 10 to 300 μm .

21. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.

22. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient is pravastatin sodium.

23. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the material for compression molding further contains a lubricant selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, stearic acid, stearyl alcohol, sodium stearyl fumarate and sucrose fatty acid ester.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the material for compression molding further contains at least one member selected from the group consisting of flavoring agents, sweeteners, perfumes, coloring agents, stabilizers, fluidizing agents, anti-oxidants and co-solubilizers.

27. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the compounding ratio of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient to the adsorbent in the fine granules is 1:10 to 10:1.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the compounding ratio of the D-mannitol by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 20 to 99%.

30. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the compounding ratio of the disintegrator by weight to the total weight of the tablet is 0.5 to 30%.

31-76. (Cancelled)

77. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the whole or a part of the D-mannitol is a primary particle and the specific surface area of the primary particle is $1.0 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ or less and the average particle size of the primary particles is in the range of 10 to 300 μm .

78. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.

79. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 77, wherein the solubility of the water-soluble pharmacologically active ingredient in water is 1 mg/ml or more.